GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3211
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2001
SETTING UP OF FOOD LABORATORIES
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Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a network of food laboratories to help entrepreneurs to assure quality production for exports;

(b) if so, the number of food laboratories proposed to be set up in the country, State-wise; and

(c) the amount proposed to be spent thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA)

(a) to (c): For reorienting and strengthening the mechanism of quality assurance and to promote the exports on a long term basis through quality control and pre − shipment inspection, Government of India enacted the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963. Under the purview of the Act, Government of India have established Export Inspection Agencies (EIAs) under theMinistry of Commerce & Industry at Bombay, Calcutta, Cochin,Delhi and Chennai with 45 sub − offices spread all over the country for carrying out pre − shipment inspection of export goods. All these offices are well equipped for inspection and certification with laboratories providing the back up for testing of samples. A Plan fund of Rs. 1.5 crores has been approved by the Government of India for modernization and up-gradation of laboratories during 2001 − 2002. An amount of Rs. 3.8 crores is proposed to be spent on modernization and up gradation of the EIC laboratories during theyears 2002 − 2003, 2003 − 2004 and 2004 − 2005. Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI) do not set up any laboratories. However,Ministry of Food Processing Industries hadpreliminary discussions with various Ministries/Departments for strengthening and up-gradation o f existing fo o d laboratories t o help entrepreneurs to ensure quality production for export. In addition to this, Ministry of Food Processing industries is already providing financial assistance to various agencies for setting up of quality control laboratories and up gradation of existing laboratories as also to introduce Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) system so as to manufacture quality products.